



**TUSCOLA VARSITY VOLLEYBALL.** Back row from left to right: Manager Caitlynn Hays, Coach Emma Rhoades, Natalie Hasting, Sydney Moss, Coach Hannah Steedly, Coach Emily Griswell. Middle Row left to right: Braidy Stahler, Addisyn Pettry, Carly Ochs, Olivia Wallace, Zoey Thomason, Catie Gibson. Front row left to right: Ayla DeLeva, Emily Czerwonka, Reese Davis, Ava Rauguth, Belle Notaro. *Photo by Rachel Ray.*

# Lady Warriors end strong

**By Lenny Sementi**

Tuscola's volleyball team ended its third straight loaded week of competition on the winning side of the scoreboard. Coach Emily Griswell's team wrapped up the week with four matches in a strong Decatur Unity Christian Tournament. The ladies in black and gold closed the tourney on a high note beating Danville Schlarman in straight sets 18-25, 18-25 thanks to a well-rounded offensive attack.

Senior Catie Gibson was tops in the kill department with 4 as eight Warriors in all notched at least one. Olivia Wallace found her way to 4 also and chipped in 4-saves as well. Emily Czerwonka was a top the assist's column with 11 while Ava Rauguth donated 4 to the cause. Reese Davis was big behind the net accounting for a match high

9-digs. Czerwonka was next up with 7, followed by Ayla Deleva with 4.

The Lady Warriors fell in the opener to the hosts in two games 18-25, 16-25 in spite of a well-rounded effort from senior Sydney Moss. She led the way up front with 3-kills and 3-blocks while also delivering a pair of aces. Both Czerwonka and Davis were strong defensively finding their way to 7-digs each in the loss while Addisyn Pettry was tops in the service stat line.

In the second match of the day Bloomington Cornerstone Academy ran out early in both sets and stayed ahead winning in two games 11-25, 20-25. Moss and Czerwonka both notched 3-kills apiece. Czerwonka had a part in all 7 of the teams kills delivering 5-assists. The senior also came up big in

the back row diving her way to a team high 9-saves. Brady Stahler was next up in the digs department with 7-saves, followed by Carly Ochs and Natalie Hasting who both found their way to 5.

In match three of the day Griswell's gang rebounded from a tough 23-25 game one loss to win the second set in extra time 27-25 to force a third but the Lady Hawks pulled away late to secure the victory. Moss shined at the net adding a career best 13-kills to her season stat sheet. Czerwonka had an assist on every one of them as the senior secured a season best 17 in the match. Deleva and Hasting both notched double-digit service points and Pettry led all Warriors in the back row with a career best 15-saves. Ochs turned in a career best as well hustling her way to 14-saves



**TUSCOLA FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE VOLLEYBALL.** Back from left to right: Manager Caitlynn Hays, Coach Emma Rhoades, MaKenzie Spencer, Phoebe Wilkins, Emma Spillman, Addie Presson, Brynlee Ring, Coach Hannah Steedly, Coach Emily Griswell. Middle row left to right: Kinzie Cleland, Sawyer Cleland, Sicily Moss, Hanna Carswell, Ava Whitson, Tessa Brucker. Front row left to right: Rixie Lyons, Abbie Meyer, Addy Revell, Wrigley Hackett. *Photo by Rachel Ray.*



**TUSCOLA JV VOLLEYBALL.** Left to right back row: Manager Caitlynn Hayes, F/S Coach Emma Rhoades, Chloe Fowler, Phoebe Wilkins, Sidnie Barnes, Ava Rauguth, JV Coach Hannah Steedly, Varsity Head Coach Emily Griswell. Left to Right Middle row: Izabella Taylor, Kali Gilpin, Olivia Wallace, Lilly Kurtz, Carly Ochs, Ayla Deleva. Left to Right Front row: Rixie Lyons, Wrigley Hackett, Reese Davis, Cailin Munson, Belle Notaro. *Photo by Rachel Ray.*

# Tuscola Warrior cross country makes a statement

**By Lenny Sementi**

Tuscola's cross country team made a big statement this past weekend in East Peoria on the course that the state meet will be contested on later in the fall. And, like last week it wasn't just the state's top ranked boys team that was turning heads. Coach Neal Garrisons boys team dominated the field winning the 34-team event that boasted over 550-runners sweeping the top

four spots collecting the team trophy while coach Drew Sterkel's girls squad followed the lead of sophomore sensation Kate Foltz.

Foltz left no doubt erasing 1-minute and 32-seconds from her best race a year ago at the Detweiller Park crossing the finish line 40-seconds in front of her nearest competitor breaking the tape in a career best 16:48 to win the event. Her time puts her in

the top five in the Nation as this juncture of the season and quickly puts her on the list of competitors that will vie for a state title.

Sterkel's young team ending their day in 27th overall placing two other runners Bella Dueker and Bailey Ritter in the top half of the large field. Celeste Rebello and Hanna Carson were the fourth and fifth scorers for the first year coach while An-

nie Brazzel served as the alternate.

Garrisons boys got a little separated at the start but found their way back together as the race progressed winning the team race by over 150-points as four runners entered the chute in a virtual dead heat. It was Jackson Barrett's turn to cross first posting a 14:59.5 ending his day just 2-tenths of a second in front of the other half of the dynamic duo Josiah Hortin. Second year runner Blake McLeese was next to the line less than a second back with a 15:00.4. Will Foltz was right on his heels with a 15:01 while Xander Neamtu took at 18th overall setting a personal best time with a 15:41. Alternate David Hornaday shined as well PR'ing by over 30-seconds to finish in 84th overall.

Sixteen runners in all competed for Garrison and every one of them set a personal best time on the state course putting them in position to be the team to beat in Class 1A. Garrison stated all the runners were almost all where he thought they would be. He also commented about a few guys just missing the sub 15-minute mark and how it should motivate for the future.



**KATE FOLTZ (2121) leads the girls cross country team during the Sept. 9 Peoria FTTF Invite at Detweiller Park. Photo by Tracy Hornaday.**

# Big plays doom Warriors

**By Lenny Sementi**

Tuscola produced more than enough offense but came up short on the other side of the ball giving up four big plays that resulted in points culminating in a 53-34 loss to a very athletic Farmington squad. The visiting Farmers blew open a shootout late with a pair of long runs to secure the non-conference victory.

Tuscola shot off the first fireworks on the opening drive on a few big plays of their own culminating in a 26-yard scoring strike from senior Jordan Quinn to junior Parker James. Keller Beachy split the uprights on the point after attempt giving the black a 7-0 advantage. Farmington followed with a score following a blocked punt and a long ball of their own moving in front with a pair of scores to make it 12-7 visitors at the end of the first. They hit another big ball early in the second to add to their lead 18-7 before Quinn went in on an

11-yard run closing the gap to four with under 5-minutes to play in the first quarter. Another Farmer score put the Warriors on their heels heading into the breakdown by twelve 26-14.

Farmington opened the third the way they ended the second pushing the lead to twenty 34-14 on the first drive of the second half. This time however the Warriors answered with a 12-yard TD pass from Quinn to senior tight end Brady Cain pulling the hometown boys back to within striking distance 34-21. Quinn found Austin Cummings next on a 24-yard scoring strike on the final drive of the third frame narrowing the lead to six 34-28 entering the final stanza.

The momentum was short lived as the Farmers quarterback pulled it on an option play and scampered 60-yards to pay dirt giving them yet another double-digit advantage. Quinn refused to lose once more, taking to the air

for points hitting Cummings on a 30-yard pass over the top of the defense once more pulling Tuscola to within six of the lead 40-34. That however is when the comeback attempt came to end as Farmington struck twice on two long runs to end the suspense.

Quinn led the way on the ground for Tuscola gaining 79-yards on 24-carries while connecting on 26 of 46 through the air for 354-yards accounting for 433-total yards. Cummings was the leading receiver with a career best 14-catches for 234-yards while Nate Thomason, Dylan Graves and Jayden Connor all grabbed 3 Quinn passes out of the air for a combined 76-yards. Thomason was tops on the tackle chart with 10, followed by Cummings who secured 7-stops, all solo tackles. Draven Warner was one back with 6, including one for loss.

# Gough goes low

**By Lenny Sementi**

Senior Brayden Gough led the way in a quadrangular golf meet at Ironhorse this past Thursday. The Warriors fell to a very good Effingham St. Anthony squad posted a 38 by Gough who posted a pair of birdies. Aiden Devlin was next up with a 46 while Ty Thomason, Ryker Gough and Chris Atwater all carded 52's helping upend both Salt

Fork and Villa Grove.

They opened the week with the eight team Tuscola Invitational. The Gough boys paired up in the Ryder Cup style competition ending up behind a solid pair from Leroy shooting an 85 in the 18-hole outing in which a strong Windsor squad collected the team trophy. Atwater and Jacob Waugh were just one stroke back with an 86 while Thomason and Car-

son Gaines rounded out the scoring carding a 97.

The elder Gough and Waugh shared low man honors for Coach Angela Gough in a triangular meet at Leroy two nights later penciling in matching 44's. Thomason was next up in the three spot and Atwater occupied the four hole as the Warriors beat Blue Ridge but fell to the Panthers with a 187 as a team.

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